

RESOLUTION NO. 2021/22-07

**SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 15, 2021 LATINA/O/X
HERITAGE MONTH**

To recognize Latina/o/x Heritage Month by honoring the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America, Spain, Brazil and other Mestizo or Indigenous groups.

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month, also known in more inclusive terms as Latina/o/x Heritage Month, was first observed in 1968 under President Lyndon Johnson, and was expanded to National Hispanic Heritage Month by President Ronald Reagan and enacted into law as an annual proclamation, in 1988 to a month long period, starting September 15th; and

WHEREAS, this law celebrated Hispanic and Latina/o/x Americans, the anniversaries of independence for the Latin American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua; while Mexico and Chile celebrate September 16th and 18th, respectively; and

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15th and ends on October 15th. At the time of the proclamation designation the term "Hispanic" was the term used by the U.S. Census to describe people of Spanish-speaking origin and ancestry. To be more inclusive of multiple identities, Indigenous, Brazilian and others, the District has titled this celebratory month Latina/o/x Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, no matter the term one chooses to use, whether it be Latina, Latino, Latinx or Chicano/a, Hispanic we refer to people whose history is rich with those who positively influence and enrich our nation, our society, our community, our state, and our schools through their work, commitment to our community, deep value of culture, social justice and liberty; and

WHEREAS, throughout history and into current day, Latina/o/x people have made significant contributions in fields such as education, government, science, law, medicine, entertainment, literature, sports, military, thereby enhancing and shaping the vibrancy of the United States with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their communities; and including notables such as US Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Civil Rights leaders Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta, Ellen Ochoa first Latina NASA astronaut, Dr. Miguel Cardona, US Secretary of Education, Xavier Becerra US Secretary of Health and Human Services, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Artist; and

WHEREAS, Latina/o/x students represent over 60 percent of Santa Barbara Unified School District's 2021-2022 population, enriching the educational experience of all students and staff; and

WHEREAS, 23.6% of certificated, 64.4% of classified, and 34.6% of management staff are Latina/o/x employees who contribute daily to the accomplishments and education of our youth, and the District celebrates and builds upon the strengths and funds of knowledge that Latina/o/x students and staff bring

with them to school, including cultural perspectives, lived experiences, practices, and languages. Further, the District supports the sustainment of heritage language and teaching practices that mirror the lived experiences and customs of our Latina/o/x students; and

WHEREAS, SBUSD has an Equity Policy that states our commitment to closing achievement and opportunity gaps for all students is the top priority of the Board of Education, the Superintendent and all district staff; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education believes that each and every student is to be celebrated, and appreciated for the distinct and vibrant contributions made by sharing cultures, language, ideas, beliefs and values within a school community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Barbara Unified School District Board of Education proclaims Latina/o/x Heritage Month September 15 – October 15, 2021 recognizing this year's theme, "Esperanza: A Celebration of Latina/o/x Heritage and Hope." The theme invites us to celebrate Latina/o/x Heritage and to reflect on how great our tomorrow can be if we hold onto our resilience and hope. The Board further urges all students and staff to observe this month by learning and celebrating the histories, cultures, and contributions of Americans whose ancestors came from Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America, Spain, Brazil and other Mestizo or Indigenous groups.

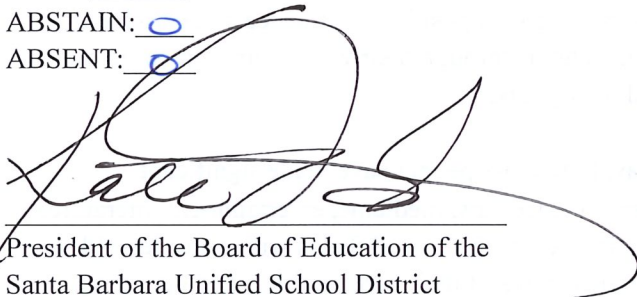
ADOPTED, SIGNED and APPROVED by the Board of Education of the Santa Barbara Unified School District on the 14th day of September, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

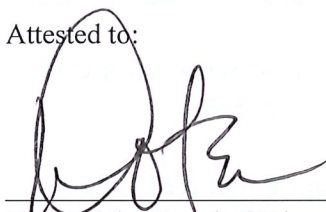
ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0



President of the Board of Education of the
Santa Barbara Unified School District

Attested to:



Clerk of the Board of Education of the
Santa Barbara Unified School District